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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/506,378	09/02/2004	Tijsbert Mathieu Henricus Creemers	NL 020194	1203

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

TSIDULKO, MARK

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 08/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/506,378

Applicant(s)

CREEMERS, TIJSBERT MATHIEU
HENRICUS

Examiner

Mark Tsidulko

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>092405</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the *selection means for locally bringing movable element into contact with the light guide* (claim 1) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "2" (Fig.1) and "3" (Fig.8) have both been used to designate *light guide*. drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Since on Fig.1 the reference character "10" indicates reflector, it is unclear what is indicated by the same number on Fig.2.

Reference character "61", indicating *first surface*, according to specification, is provided to the inclined surface of the collimator (see Fig.6), which is not parallel to the *second surface*, as claimed in claim 2.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the

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drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: detail indicated by reference character "23" on Fig.2 is not disclosed in the specification.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: it is unclear what surface (first or second) is provided with prisms.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 8, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern (US 5,771,321) in view of Benoit et al. (US 6,497,492).

Referring to Claim 1 Stern discloses (Figs2, 4D) a display device including a light guide [12], a plate [38] extended parallel in spaced relationship with light guide, a movable element [28] between the light guide [12] and plate [38], a selection means (optical coupling switch, see Abstract) bringing the movable element onto contact with the light guide.

Stern discloses the instant claimed invention except for a collimator disposed between the light source and the light guide.

Benoit et al. disclose (Fig.4) a collimating means [24] disposed between the light source and the light guide.

Referring to Claim 2 Stern discloses the instant claimed invention except for wedge-shaped form of collimator having a smaller first surface parallel to larger second surface.

Benoit et al. disclose (Fig.4) a wedge-shaped collimating means [24] having a smaller first surface parallel to larger second surface.

Referring to Claim 3 Stern discloses the instant claimed invention except for transparent material of the collimator. One having ordinary skill in the art, would have recognized, that the collimator inherently made of transparent material in order to guide the light emitted from the light source.

Referring to Claims 4 and 5 Stern discloses the instant claimed invention except for prismatic structure.

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Benoit et al. disclose (Fig.4) that an input surface of collimator is provided with a prismatic film [22] having identical prisms, in order to enhance brightness of illumination (col.3, lines 26-29).

Referring to Claims 8 and 9 Stern discloses row and column electrodes and means for applying voltages to the row and column electrodes (col.11, lines 51-57).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to provide device of Stern having a collimator of Benoit et al., in order to reduce the number of reflections at the light guide, and the prismatic structure, in order to enhance the illumination.

Claims 6, 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern and Benoit et al. as applied to claim 4 above, and further in view of Jones et al. (US 7,074,463).

Stern and Benoit et al. disclose a display device having a prismatic structure directed to the light guide, but do not disclose pairs of prisms.

Jones et al. disclose (Fig.7, col.14, lines 15-44) an optical element having a prismatic structure including pairs of prisms, each pair a prisms angle and valley, wherein either prism angles or valley angles, but not both, are equal.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to provide device of Stern and Benoit et al. having a collimator with prismatic structure, as taught by Jones et al., in order to enhance the illumination.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Tsidulko whose telephone number is (571) 272-2384. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for all communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

M.T.
July 21, 2006



JOHN ANTHONY WARD
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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